

Docket No. 06-181

Kenneth L. Hill

From: JACKIEJW@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2006 4:13 PM
To: Kevin Martin
Cc: Monica Desai
Subject: (no subject)

FILED/ACCEPTED
OCT 19 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman:

I am very angry and outraged the way this has been handled! FCC is taking away our rights to know what is said. We have been real nice and patience for ten years and now this broken agreement. Reverse immediately!

Jackie Woltring

9/21/2006

Kenneth L. Hill

Docket No. 06-181

From: Judy Wagner [jfwagn99@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2006 7:41 PM
To: Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell
Cc: Monica Desai
Subject: Closed Captioning Exemptions

I am the mother of two hearing impaired teenagers that rely on closed captioning in order to watch TV. Your decision to provide exemptions for many new TV programs limits my children's ability to access these shows.

Although shows may be produced by non-profit organizations, captioning is not that expensive and the cost of captioning should not allow these non-profit organizations to limit access to shows broadcast on television. And why is it the captioning costs that the non-profits cannot pay? Why don't they leave off the audio portion of the broadcast? Why don't they reduce costs via lighting or filming?

Closed captioning allows access to television for millions of hearing impaired people. It needs to be regarded as an essential portion of the broadcast. I urge the FCC to reconsider its position and support closed captioning.

*Regards,
Judy Wagner
Burke, VA*

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OCT 19 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Kenneth L. Hill

Docket No. 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

*Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary*

From: CKWCarolyn@aol.com

Sent: Monday, September 25, 2006 6:32 PM

To: Monica Desai

Subject: A LETTER OF PROTEST

Dear FCC Chairman,

I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use.

I have had to deal with a profound hearing loss since 1974. You are very isolated from the main stream ways of communicating and those of us who deal with this everyday is most grateful that we have closed captioning available when we turn the TV set on.

PLEASE RECONSIDER IMMEDIATELY! WE NEED OUR CLOSED CAPTIONING ON EVERY SHOW!

Sincerely,

Carolyn K. Williams
831 Williams Road
Summerville, GA 30747-6309

email: ckwcarolyn@aol.com

9/26/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED
OCT 19 2006

From: Dave Welter [dave.welter@comcast.net]

Sent: Friday, September 15, 2006 10:31 PM

To: Monica Desai

Subject: Needless exemptions from captioning

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Ms. Desai,

We are greatly concerned that exemptions are being made for captioning of presentations. As a person with hearing loss, I depend solely on captioning to understand the spoken word. Please help us put an end to this elimination of understanding for the millions of Americans who have hearing loss. We need access through captioning for communicating and receiving information.

**Thank you,
Carrie Welter**

9/19/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

From: Meg [bohemplady@mindspring.com]
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2006 4:55 PM
To: Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Monica Desai
Subject: Closed Captioning exemptions

Dear Chairman and Commissioners,

I am saddened about learning that the FCC has made a decision to grant a large number of captioning exemptions. I am hearing - my parents are Deaf (Father passed away, Mother still alive), and I remember when Closed Captioning started on Tv and how special it was for the whole family. Closed Captioning is so important to the Deaf, and in this world, unthinkable to take that away. Alot of elderly Deaf, and poverished Deaf are unable to get out to go to Church. The Closed Captioning gives them access to religion. Seems like a basic right being taken away. Please reconsider these exemptions.

Repectfully,
Margaret Willison

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OCT 19 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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OCT 19 2006Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

From: REWebster@aol.com**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2006 6:04 PM**To:** Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Monica Desai**Subject:** (no subject)

15 September 2006

Dear Gentlemen:

I was shocked and very sad to learn that you had granted exemptions from closed captioning to several agencies (more than 200!). You don't really understand what is like to be deaf. Before closed captioning came in being, When I was growing up, I watched TV and tried to guess what they were talking about from the way they were acting. With closed captioning, I am more involved and enjoy the programs with closed captioning immensely. Without CC, it would feel like I am back to the stone age.

Please, please, please reverse your decisions and take back exemptions. Those agencies had ten years, and they had plenty of time, and that is no excuse for them to cry and beg for exemptions! What were they doing all those years? Sitting on their hands?

Thank you very much for listening.

Robert E. Webster
Forest Grove, Oregon

9/19/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

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OCT 19 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

From: NWI Area Deaf News [dnwinews@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Saturday, September 16, 2006 11:36 AM
To: Kevin Martin; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Michael Copps; Monica Desai
Subject: RE:Orders DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

Dear FCC Chairman,

I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB.

These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! We need our closed captioning!

Why is it that the US government delights in denying us our basic human right? We have brains even if we can't hear. Closed Captioning is a necessity, not something to be intangible. The same applies to Open Caption. There are rich corporations out there, they can afford it - they just don't know how to budget appropriately to draw in more revenues. Even some churches have funds to be able to do television evangelism and they draw in revenue and cannot pay for closed captioning? Why should there be loopholes that place imbalance within the check/balance system? It places US in favor with corporations and businesses, effectively disregarding the people who create the revenue for them.

The Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and it has been successful because of it's 10 year plan, now the FCC actively seeks to circumvent the law to create opportunities for corporations and businesses to "cry wolf"? I wonder where the US citizens working for the US government - their hearts are in.

Lady Liberty, Uncle Sam, and the founders are tired of the current crap that's floating across the waters within the US government.

Thanks

Joanna Witulski, Editor NWI Deaf E-News & US citizen

Exercising my right to privacy - my address will not be disclosed.

9/19/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

From: Saraboo [saraboo@comcast.net]
Sent: Saturday, September 16, 2006 1:00 PM
To: Kevin Martin
Cc: Monica Desai
Subject: DA06-1802,CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

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OCT 19 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Sir and Madam:

Regarding the above subjects, I wish to object to action on the above which would grant exemptions from closed captioning.

Why would the FCC want to do this?

My VA Disability is on hearing loss, combat related and I need closed captioning.

Bruce B. Winter
2627 Riverbluff Parkway
Sarasota, FL 34231

9/19/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

From: Snoobam1@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, September 16, 2006 2:47 PM

To: Kevin Martin; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Monica Desai

Subject: Closed Captions

"In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

Dear FCC Chairman, I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB.

These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! We need our closed captioning!

Shayne Whaley
2804 Herbert Dr.
Wilmington, DE. 19808

9/19/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

From: SWatson830@aol.com

Sent: Monday, September 18, 2006 1:40 PM

To: Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell

Cc: Monica Desai

Subject: TV Captioning

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

As a late-deafened adult dependent on TV captioning, I am upset and disappointed at the recent actions taken by the FCC. I have just learned that the FCC has made a decision to grant a large number of captioning exemptions. This was a terrible decision, ignoring the needs of people with disabilities. That decision should not stand. It should be reversed immediately.

Stuart Watson
Redondo Beach

9/19/2006

Pam Gregory**Docket No. 06-181**

From: RobbinsLynne@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2006 5:10 PM
To: Robert McDowell; Michael Copps; Deborah Tate; Monica Desai; Kevin Martin
Subject: (no subject)

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OCT 19 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

"In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

Dear FCC Chairman,

I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. I am saddened - and thousands of deaf and hearing impaired like myself are outraged. We believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use.

It indeed is too expensive to exclude people like myself from access to the world of information. I remember, when I was younger, how dependent I was on everyone to make my phone calls for me. I know now that as a professional and educator working in a hearing school, that I am often excluded (tho not intentionally) from staff meetings, district announcements and trainings - because of the lack of captioning. Captioning brings the world to me, and many like myself. There is no excuse for the invisible fence that "I cannot afford to include those who are different or disabled". We have a contribution to make to Society. We need to participate in order for our voices to be heard; and we need to be informed, to participate wisely.

We trust you to understand the seriousness of this loophole, the epidemic of "we cannot afford anyone who is different" which waits behind it, and ask that you react proactively. We want you to rescind and close these Orders, thus protecting our rights for full access to information and to full participation on the society in which we live and work ...

Please reconsider
immediately! We need our closed captioning!

Lynne White-Robbins
PO Box 385
Newton Centre MA 02459

9/19/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

From: SAM CHRISTINE WESTON [weston8958@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2006 11:14 PM
To: Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Michael Copps; Monica Desai
Subject: Please address this grievous action

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

I recently learned of a horrible action taken by the FCC:

In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007
I protest the recent Orders granting
exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders
appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption
basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged
and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity
crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider
immediately! We need our closed captioning!

Our deaf and hard of hearing community have the right to the same
quality of communication as any hearing person. I beg that you reconsider
these potential actions!

Sincerely,
Christine Weston
Denver, Colorado

9/19/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

From: 56mfw@comcast.net

Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2006 12:59 AM

To: Monica Desai

Subject: captioning

Greetings.

I urge you to please consider reversing your decision to grant exemption to religious organizations from captioning their programs. I have so enjoyed watching these programs since I have lost my hearing and can no longer attend church.

Sincerely, Faith Wagner

9/19/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

*Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary*

From: Woomer221@aol.com

Sent: Friday, September 15, 2006 9:08 AM

To: Kevin Martin; michael.coops@fcc.gov; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Monica Desai

Subject: FCC

I was so appalled with the news you have made. This is truly a slap to my face with your recent decision taken with FCC. I just read an email that the FCC has made a decision to grant a large number of captioning exemptions. It should be reversed immediately.
Jennifer Woomer

9/20/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**From:** Anne Wicklund [anne@webwolf.net]**Sent:** Thursday, September 14, 2006 11:12 PM**To:** Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Monica Desai**Subject:** Closed Captioning Exemptions to Churches

Dear Commissioners:

As a member of Hearing Loss Association of America we were just informed that the Commission has granted permanent exemption to churches regarding the requirement to provide closed captioning to the public. We have been closely watching the progression of closed captioning and other accessibilities to make life easier in so many instances. I am so shocked and dismayed - Churches above all others are the caretakers of people in need

While this does not directly affect us - we are not church people - this does affect 28 million deaf and hard of hearing people who are in need of spiritual relief. Some of them - that's ALL they have. And will other TV producers be next? If this is the first step in not providing for our handicapped citizens, what is next? Should we take away the glasses of people who are visually impaired? Curb access and ramps for people in wheelchairs? This is like the dark ages - have we stepped back in time so far? Do we care so little for our people?

Please, please reconsider - this is a dangerous precedent that will set the standard for MANY others who want to get out of having to comply with closed captioning - perhaps the weather stations? emergency broadcasts? the news? medical reports and bulletins?

If churches get away with this who is next? Until my husband lost his hearing at the age of 50 we were also not aware of how important certain accessibilities were - but YOU try to get along without one of your senses - you never know what will hit you. The television is the medium used by 90% of handicapped people to get their information - deaf and hard of hearing people are visual. If they don't see it, if no one tells them, if they don't hear it - - - - they don't KNOW it!

Don't take their power away.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Anne Wicklund**

mrpaws.com

hearingimpaired.net

P O Box 17954

Fountain Hills, AZ 85269

Voice/VCO 480.837.0190

awicklund@hearingimpaired.net

9/20/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

*Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary*

From: COHEAR@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2006 7:39 PM

To: Monica Desai

Subject: Continue CAPTIONING on TV

We deaf and hard of hearing people need captioning to continue. Just because you cannot see our disability should not allow you to put us back into the dark ages where once upon time we were labeled stupid because we had no access to the hearing world.

You are doing a great injustice to us. There 31,000,000 people in the USA with hearing loss. Ten million of them are baby boomers between the ages of 45-64. One of out of three seniors over the age of 65 has a hearing loss.

Thanks for listening.

Hermine Willey

Hearing Loss Association Coordinator for Ohio (volunteer)

Phone: 614-861-7956 (CapTel) Captioned phone helps hard of hearing people connect with the world just like CART on TV does.

Pam Gregory

FILED/ACCEPTED
OCT 19 2006

From: COHEAR@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2006 7:45 PM

To: Monica Desai

Subject: Closed Captioning NOW

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

It has been ten years now since the closed captioning rules were put in place. That is plenty of time for programmers to find funding and get set up to caption their programs. The decision sets a very bad precedent. A) It is counter to the regulations at 47 CFR Part 79.1(d) that allow for certain exemptions; and (b) it is de facto rulemaking without notice. They are creating new regulations without a process. This FCC interpretation could have far reaching effects that go well beyond religious programming. The entities who asked for waivers are given consideration while those of use who will be affected are not.

9/20/2006

Docket No. 06-181

Kenneth L. Hill

From: Suebeach@aol.com
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2006 6:47 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear FCC Chairman, I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! We need our closed captioning!

Sue Weglowski
166 Shaw Street
Garfield, NJ 07026

9/26/2006



October 4, 2006

Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Michael J. Copps, Commissioner
Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner
Deborah Taylor Tate, Commissioner
Robert M. McDowell, Commissioner

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

*Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary*

Dear Commissioners,

This is to let you know that Wisconsin Telecommunicators and its members (hereafter known as WTCI) fully support the action alerts from TDI and other national organizations to oppose the decisions taken by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on September 12, 2006. We respectfully ask that the FCC reverse its September 12, 2006 decisions regarding television captioning waivers.

Churches make up a very important part of every community. It is within their mission to support the basic needs of all people within their reach. When Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast one year ago, they were among the first to offer help with shelter, food, and other assistance to the survivors. Captioning TV programs does meet a legitimate basic need for access to information just like building a ramp to the church door. By providing captions to meet the needs of a significant hearing-impaired (Deaf, hard of hearing, etc) population group, the churches will find themselves with an expanded TV viewership, which will lead to an increase in their membership and other support from the community. When children and adults are able to read captions on spiritual programs, they are influenced to live up to high moral standards and contribute their part to the community. Hearing loss is the number one growing disability among senior citizens – they will find themselves depending on captioning to listen to the message.

We want to participate fully in all programs and services at our local church because it serves as a vital resource that empowers us to be fully integrated in the community. If one of us who are deaf or hard of hearing sees the services with captions on TV, we can interact with other church members, neighbors,

fellow employees, family members, and service professionals in the local community. We stand to benefit from the "local connection" that national religious programs are unable to provide.

We know that all video programmers have had ten years to prepare for the captioning regulations now in place, and temporary waivers when appropriate. When you give full permanent exemptions to the two programmers, it reverses all the access we have worked on for years. We ask that programmers consider other possible revenue options such as sponsorships, long-term captioning service agreements, and aftermarket sales (videotapes or DVDs) to cover and minimize the cost of captioning. Or, they can reduce other expenses in their production budgets to enable the provision of captioning.

Closed captioning gives me

- a) access to news that is indispensable to the community,
- b) entertainment that is an integral part of our lives, and
- c) education that paves the way for us to become self-sufficient in society.

The information that everyone in the community receives is also important to me and I can only get it if it is captioned.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,



James Powell

President, on behalf of WTCI Board and Members

president@wi-deafdir.info

Phone: 800-678-7960

cc:

Monica Desai, Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau

Jay Keithley, Deputy Chief (Policy), Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau

Tom Chandler, Chief, Disability Rights Office

Cheryl King, Deputy Chief, Disability Rights Office

(continued)

Page 3

cc:

Senator Herb Kohl

Senator Russ Feingold

Congressman Paul Ryan, 1st District

Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin, 2nd District

Congressman Ron Kind, 3rd District

Congresswoman Gwendolynne Moore, 4th District

Congressman F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., 5th District

Congressman Thomas E Petri, 6th District

Congressman David Obey, 7th District

Congressman Mark Green, 8th District

Pam Gregory

Docket No.

06-181
~~06-181~~

From: ryoung@oswego.edu
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2006 9:37 AM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Captioning

FILED/ACCEPTED
OCT 19 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Commissioner DeSai:

Please do all that you can to keep closed captioning as wide spread as possible. My husband wears two hearing aids and despite that can only enjoy television with closed captioning. He and others will be limited in their ability to follow programming if captions are cut back.

We appreciate anything you can do to continue the captioning which means so much to us.

Thank you.

Rosalie Young
11 Northridge Road
DeWitt, New York 13214
ryoung@oswego.edu

Docket No. 06-181

Pam Gregory

From: J F [flickjean@yahoo.com]**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2006 10:01 AM**To:** Kevin Martin; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Monica Desai**Subject:** DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007 - Please Reconsider Now

FCC

445 12th Street SW

Washington, DC 20054

Attn: Chairman Martin

(Fax (202) 418-0232)

Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

Dear FCC Chairman,

I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. I am outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Closed captioning is needed at all times and places! Please reconsider immediately!

Jeannie M. Youngbloom-Flick

P.O. Box 443

740 Redwood

Gardner, KS 66030

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OCT 19 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

All-new Yahoo! Mail - Fire up a more powerful email and get things done faster.

9/20/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

From: JYates1936@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2006 5:57 PM

To: Monica Desai

Subject: Closed Captioning Exemptions

FILED/ACCEPTED
OCT 19 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Madam: The next time you sit down to watch TV try to turn the sound off and see if you enjoy watching it. That's how it is for the deaf and hard of hearing population when programs are not closed captioned. Please keep closed captioning. Thank you.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack H. Yates
9 Emory Court
Fredericksburg, VA 22406

9/20/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

From: Yoshi Yagi [yyagi1@ameritech.net]
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2006 8:50 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Close captioning protest!!!!
"In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED
OCT 19 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Ms. DeSai,

I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. This is typical of the Bush administration catering to conservative religious organizations and big business!!!! No public hearings were held to see how important this service to those of us who are hearing impaired. Hearing loss is one of the largest handicapped groups in the United States (about 10% of the population will have this problem during their lifetime). Please reconsider immediately! I do not watch commercials or programs that are not closed captioned. Many normal hearing people do use closed captioning in restaurants and exercise facilities. It also helps those learning the English language. We need our closed captioning!

Mrs. Betty Yagi

6112 Old Log Trail

Kalamazoo, MI 49009

yyagi1@ameritech.net

10/11/2006